

## Communist politicians in detention

AMMAN (AP) — The new Jordanian government said Tuesday the entire portfolio of the Communist Party was in detention. "The political members are all in detention," Foreign Ministry spokesman Chamsat Ghebre told journalists. He did not say how many had been arrested or what charges the detained leaders might face. According to official figures the party included just over 48 full and candidate members, among them President Naseer Chamees and his wife Huda who were shot Dec. 25 for "treason" and "grave abuse of power." A senior communist in the Communist Party, Ameed Yala, told Reuters Tuesday that the party was "in fact dissolved already" but had to make its liquidation official. Yala said he belonged to a group of about 60 Communists trying to rebuild a political force on the left from the ashes of the party, once numerically the strongest in Eastern Europe with 2.5 million members out of a population of 23 million. "We failed to take action in time to stop the rise of dictatorship," he said. Communists had been allowed to build up a massive apparatus of repression and in the end the party lost all power to the dictators.

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## Amnesty: Israel condones killings of Palestinians

By special arrangement

AMNESTY International said Wednesday it feared the Israeli government had effectively condoned and even encouraged extrajudicial executions of Palestinians by its forces in order to help control unrest during the intifada in the occupied territories.

The worldwide human rights organisation said the evidence pointing to this lay in the existing guidelines for the use of firearms by Israeli forces which might actually permit unjustifiable killing, the pattern of certain killings of unarmed Palestinians and the inadequate investigation of abuse by the authorities.

"We are concerned that taken together these factors appear to add up to more than just tolerance of serious abuses and amount to real encouragement of them," Amnesty International said.

In a special report in its January Newsletter, Amnesty International focused on the hundreds of deaths which have resulted from the use of firearms by the Israeli defence force, the paramilitary border police and other forces responsible for law enforcement in the occupied territories.

These forces have tried to stop the disturbances by shooting at demonstrators, using tear-gas and severely beating detainees — and their use of such force has often

been "excessive and indiscriminate," Amnesty International says.

Over 560 Palestinians have been shot dead by Israeli forces since the intifada began two years ago — some 130 of the dead were aged 16 or below and of these about 35 were aged 12 or below.

At least 15 more Palestinians reportedly died after beatings by Israeli forces. About 70 more are said to have died in tear-gas related incidents — about half after canisters were thrown into their homes or other confined spaces.

The organisation says the scope of the guidelines on the use of firearms has been progressively extended during the intifada. They permit the use of live ammunition to arrest suspects — soldiers are required to first shoot an order to halt, then to fire in the air before firing at the suspect, aiming at the legs. Amnesty International says it is not clear how serious an offence must be for the use of firearms to be permitted. Since September 1989 soldiers have been allowed to treat masked people as suspects and to use live ammunition to arrest them.

Amnesty International is particularly concerned that the guidelines appear to permit the unjustifiable killing of people who are involved in activities which do not necessarily endanger life or who

may simply be wearing masks. Most Palestinians killed were shot with ordinary bullets, although by the end of September 1989 as many as 117 had been killed by plastic bullets. Several others were apparently killed by rubber bullets or "marbles," rubber coated metal pellets.

Amnesty International says the guidelines are reported to be often disregarded by Israeli forces.

Although most killings appear to have occurred in the context of demonstrations, in "alarmingly high number of instances" those shot do not appear to have been involved in any life-threatening or even violent activities. The report questions whether stone-throwing incidents in which people — often children — were shot constituted a serious enough danger to justify the use of firearms.

Some unarmed Palestinians have been killed by soldiers or Israeli plainclothes personnel during operations whose ostensible purpose was arrest. The victims included people known or suspected to be leading intifada activists. Most appear to have been shot when trying to escape.

After a number of such shootings Israeli forces have withheld or otherwise hampered emergency medical care for the casualties, Amnesty International says.

The report cites a dozen cases

of people killed in 1989 by Israeli forces in circumstances suggesting excessive use of force or deliberate killing. They include:

— Atwah Huzzalin, a university student aged 26, shot dead on Feb. 27 while returning to the village of Deir Ibzi with four other youths. The group was apparently confronted by soldiers — present in the area following stone-throwing incidents earlier that day — one of whom fired at close range killing the student.

— Samer 'Aruru, aged 11, shot in the West Bank village of Slat Al Harkhah on March 19 after a soldier had opened fire, allegedly without warning, at a group of children watching a convoy enter the village. It is not clear whether these children had thrown stones. The same soldier is said to have wounded another child and then to have swung round to fire at other youths, resulting in the death of Nu'man Jaradat, aged 17.

— Yaser Abu Ghawsh, aged 17, shot dead after a brief street chase in Ramallah on 10 July. He had run away when three men in civilian clothes pulled up in an unmarked vehicle and approached him. They fired in the air and followed him into a side street, where one reportedly shot him several times in the head and back at a range of under 10 metres.

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## Israelis demolish Jericho home

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least nine Palestinians in the occupied territories Tuesday and demolished the house of a Palestinian.

The army said the house was destroyed and two others sealed, all in Jericho in the West Bank. All belonged to members of a unit that killed fellow Arabs accused of helping Israel, the army said.

The army has demolished and sealed at least 397 Palestinian houses since the start of the two-year-old uprising, according to the Israeli Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories (B'tselem).

The army said a Muslim fundamentalist leader in Gaza would go on trial Wednesday.

Sheikh Ahmad Yassin is

charged on 15 counts, including heading the Hamas movement, inciting violence and illegally bringing money into the occupied territories. He was arrested at mid-year.

Yassin's trial, initially planned for Gaza City, was delayed last week for fear of protests by local followers.

Gaza hospital officials said soldiers shot and injured seven Palestinians. West Bank hospitals said two Palestinians were shot in Nablus.

The army lifted a 24-hour curfew imposed in Gaza Monday to prevent protests on the anniversary of Fatah.

A general strike was observed in Arab Jerusalem to mourn the death of a Palestinian teenager in Al Ram village, north of Jerusalem Monday.

The army clamped a curfew on

Ala Bader Al Khatib, 17, was shot dead when troops clashed with a group of masked activists of the uprising, during a paramilitary parade marking the Fatah anniversary, an army spokesman said.

Military sources said troops forced 300,000 residents to stay in their homes by imposing curfews on major cities and 13 of the area's 19 refugee camps. They declared all of the West Bank except Bethlehem a closed military area.

Bethlehem residents said soldiers forced shopkeepers to close their stores shortly after they opened.

Despite the restrictions, pictures of Yasser Arafat, leader of Fatah and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, and his assassinated deputy, Khalil Al Wazir, were pasted on buildings throughout the West Bank.

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the 650,000 residents of the Gaza Strip before dawn Monday and barred journalists from entering the occupied area unless accompanied by the army.

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be ousted without a chance to see and respond to evidence against him and President Chaim Herzog intervened to urge compromise.

Labour leaders were split, however, over how far to go in defending Weizman who has openly advocated talks with the PLO despite government policy against any dealings with the organisation.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was reportedly shown the evidence, told party colleagues Monday he was uncertain whether Weizman "does not have a case against Weizman."

Weizman said the compromise that ended the crisis was worked out by Rabin and Vice Premier Shimon Peres, Labour's chairman. "I'm a party man and I had to listen to my colleagues. It was hard for me, but I had to accept this."

The prime minister stressed to Mr. Weizman the seriousness with which he viewed all contacts with "terrorist" organisations, leading them the PLO," Rubin said.

"The prime minister reiterated

the government's guidelines and decisions barring contacts with the PLO. Minister Weizman accepted the prime minister's statements and will act according to the government's guidelines and decisions."

The centre-left Labour Party had demanded that Weizman not

## Shamir averts Weizman firing crisis

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday cancelled his decision to fire Science Minister Ezer Weizman after Weizman quit the decision-making inner cabinet. The move defused a political crisis that threatened the coalition government.

Shamir summoned Weizman, a senior member of the centre-left Labour Party, to work out a compromise after two days of intense efforts to save the coalition government.

Weizman, 65, a former defence minister who defected to Labour from the Likud bloc, said that Shamir took back the dismissal letter and said he would write a second one.

The arrangement was worked out before the meeting and finalised in Shamir's office "with smiles and a handshake," Weizman said, adding he would go ahead with a planned trip to Moscow on Wednesday.

Under the compromise, Weizman will remain as science minister in the overall, 26-member

cabinet but will no longer sit in sessions of the inner cabinet where government strategy is decided.

Firstly, the crisis is over. Secondly, all attempts to say I am guilty or not I don't accept because for me guilt is a matter of being brought to court or not," Weizman said.

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## First U.S. troops start leaving Panama

PANAMA CITY (Agencies) — The first U.S. invasion forces have begun pulling out of Panama, leaving the country largely pacified but with the main target of their mission, ousted strongman General Manuel Noriega, still out of their grasp.

Under pressure to resolve the nine-day standoff with the United States over what to do with Noriega, the Vatican sent a Latin American expert to help its Nicum (ambassador) in Panama seek a solution to the crisis.

Monsignor Giacinto Berloco, an Italian, arrived in Panama to help Nicum Archbishop Jose Sebastian Laboa try to end the diplomatic dispute that began when the former Panamanian strongman took refuge in the Vatican embassy on Christmas Eve.

Noriega had been on the run for four days following the U.S. invasion Dec. 20 to oust him.

White House spokesman Mar-

tin Fitzwater said two artillery

battalions totalling 141 soldiers began leaving Monday for their homes base at Fort Ord, Calif.

The U.S. army says most resistance has been crushed nearly two weeks after the invasion by a combined total of more than 27,000 troops. About 13,000 extra troops were flown in to reinforce U.S. forces stationed in Panama.

Fitzwater said the rest of the troop reinforcements would return home as soon as possible.

The United States, which wants Noriega tried on drug-trafficking charges, has ringed the embassy with troops and barbed wire but the Vatican refuses to hand him over to the Americans.

Panama's attorney-general Rogelio Cruz has said he would present charges against Noriega Tuesday. He hinted these would be connected with the failed coup against Noriega Oct. 3. He said there was evidence the officers were ex-

ecuted.

## House session on vote of confidence — genesis of Jordanian democracy

By Nermene Murad

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — During the past three days, Jordan faced the test of change and liberalisation: the government was tested by the Lower House of Parliament, the deputies faced the test of the people but after 48 speeches by deputies expressing a strange mixture of personal grievances, balanced criticism and not-so-balanced attacks and severe accusations, all three parties won.

During the session on vote of confidence, in which Prime Minister Mudar Badran and his 22-member cabinet passed the test with flying colours at the end of the day, the audience of almost 1,500 people clapped with some pleasure and enthusiasm as they displayed when deputies of the House were

levelling criticism and accusations against the government.

After waves and waves of harsh-hitting attacks spread over three days, the prime minister turned the tables with a speech in which he confidently met most of the demands of the different political blocs at in Parliament and emotionally defended himself against the severe, and sometimes offensive, accusations made by a number of Parliament members.

"If it was only left to me, by God, I would have left this place immediately but I have listened to accusations after accusation against me personally. Why? Only to make this experience succeed," Badran told Parliament as he began to defend his integrity in his answer to the people's representatives.

Many observers, however, felt that the experience, the first taste of democracy and its intricacies for the Jordanian people and government as well those who actually attended the sessions, cannot exactly be defined as the fruit of conviction-based democratic feelings among the public since the same audience which clapped and applauded while Badran was at the receiving end of accusations also clapped and applauded when he secured the confidence of the House with a surprising majority of 65 votes.

Many criticised the audience for what they called "ignorance and lack of a solid political ideology." Many felt that the people just enjoyed the freedom to listen to issues being debated in the open and clapped for the sense of freedom they felt rather than expressing

support for the orator or his viewpoints and ideas.

Although many of the demands of the deputies from the different blocs were met, the Muslim Brotherhood bloc's demands appeared to figure high in the list of concessions Badran made to the Lower House. Again, a careful study of the premier's rebuttal indicates that it is a matter of interpretation, whether or not the government has "committed itself to meeting the demands of the Brotherhood."

Although Badran did not make a specific reference to the Brotherhood's demand to fully adopt Islamic Sharia in Jordan, he stressed the importance of Islam and the way it should be reflected in the public information system and education and by banning alcohol in public institutions as well as estab-

lishing a specialised Islamic academy "open to all Jordanians, Arabs and Muslims."

A 20-member bloc, made up mostly of Muslim Brotherhood deputies, whose demands were submitted on its behalf by Deputy Abd Latif Arabyat, gave its vote of confidence to the premier after days of indecisiveness by the bloc itself and confusion of many observers, giving Badran a wide margin of success.

The leftists converged with Islamists and independents in many of their demands, but stood out with calls to establish a union for teachers as well as lifting interest on housing and agricultural loans given to low-income families. The leftists also called for abolishing the anti-communism law, the ban

(Continued on page 2)



Prime Minister Mudar Badran

## Experts fight tide of oil off Morocco

RABAT (Agencies) — Pollution experts raced against time Tuesday to contain a 300-kilometre tide of oil before storms could sweep it onto the Moroccan coast in an ecological catastrophe.

Weathermen warned that the unseasonably calm seas now helping anti-pollution efforts could turn rough within 24 hours, breaking up the slick which has drifted to within 30 kilometres of the coast.

About 70,000 tonnes of crude is thought to have poured from the Iranian supertanker Kharg-3, drifting in the Atlantic off north-west Africa since it was holed two weeks ago by explosions and fire.

The ship, which has been towed some 320 kilometres from the coast, was previously damaged by Iraqi aircraft while shutting oil during the 1980-88 Gulf war.

Officials said 14 aircraft and seven boats, some manned by international experts, were spraying detergents and throwing barrages across the path of the mammoth slick.

French Environment Minister Brice Lalonde told French radio the Kharg-3 was still leaking oil and a second tanker was sailing to the scene to try to draw off an estimated 200,000 tonnes still in its hold.

Lalonde, heading a team of French marine pollution experts, said precious time was lost plugging the leak after the 32-man crew abandoned ship on Dec. 19 because of arguments over money between the Iranian owners and a Dutch salvage company.

"They haggled for days and days before agreeing... haggling during the middle of a catastrophic situation, and during this time the tanker is getting closer to the coast," he said.

"It is absolutely essential to find an international way of avoiding this kind of situation," he added.

He said the slick could hit the coast in the next two or three days, depending on the weather, and among the points threatened was Casablanca — Morocco's commercial capital.

The amount of oil that has leaked from the Kharg-3 is double that released when the Exxon Valdez ran aground in Alaska's Prince William Sound last March in the worst accident in U.S.

The spill now covers an area of some 120 sq miles and could spell disaster for some of the world's richest fishing grounds for tuna and sardines. Picturesque lagoons full of oysters and rare wildlife are also at risk.

Some 40,000 jobs could be lost in the fishing industry and thousands more in tourism — two of the mainstays of the economy in an area of a high unemployment.

Experts say the sandy beaches around the tourist centre of Agadir are also threatened and Morocco could lose as much as half a billion dollars in export earnings.

But some experts said the more toxic elements in the slick have already evaporated and the Moroccan news agency MAP quoted one French expert as saying the spill now presented no risk to the coastline.

The Moroccans have things well in hand, "Robert Luigi of Marseille port authority was reported as saying.

Another supertanker some 480 kilometres to the west of Kharg-3 was also reported to be spewing thousand of tonnes of crude.

The 240,000-deadweight Tonine Aragon, registered in Spain, was damaged in a storm at the coast," he said.

weekend near Madeira and according to Portuguese naval sources has spilled 25,000 tonnes.

The Dutch salvage firm Smit Tak reported Tuesday that workers plugged a gaping 20-metre by 30-metre hole in the tanker's port side, but a French official said the vessel still streamed oil.

"We have had no leaks from the Kharg-5 for the last 24 hours," spokesman Daan Kaakebeen said at Smit Tak's headquarters in Rotterdam. "We have done some repairs to the ship and we managed to stop the leak."

The Dutch tugs Off-Vigo and Fair Play and the Spanish tug Punta Tarifa were towing the ship towards an unspecified location south of the Cape Verde islands in a trip that should take about eight days, Kaakebeen said.

Lalonde, interviewed Tuesday on France-Info radio from Morocco where he is assessing the country's needs in face of the crisis, said danger remains that high winds could push the oil ashore.

"If the wind pushes the slick, it could reach the coast in two or three days," Lalonde said. Morocco is a former French colony.

Experts from the oil spillage response centre in Southampton, England, laid 1,000 metres of boom cable to protect the community, whose main industry is oyster farming.

Also threatened were the rich fishing grounds at Safi, a migratory bird reserve and flamingo breeding ground at Moulou Boushaim, and the popular tourist beaches at Agadir.

The main body of the slick threatens and area at Mekhala north of Rabat, the capital, to Mohammadia in the south, the French TV station La Cinq reported Monday.



ANTI-PEACE ACTION: Israeli policemen drag away a Palestinian woman after violently breaking up a rally for peace in occupied Jerusalem last week.

## El Al flight brings Soviets to Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — The first direct flight from Moscow to Tel Aviv on Israel's El Al airline arrived Monday bearing 125 Soviet immigrants.

The immigrants joined the special El Al flight on its return trip after it had brought the Habima National Theatre to the Soviet Union, and officials say it is a step towards regularly scheduled direct flights between the two countries.

Israel has been seeking direct flights and signed an agreement with the Soviet Union last month to begin them early this year.

El Al President Rafi Har-Lev greeted the 125 immigrants at the airport and said he hoped the regularly scheduled flights will begin soon.

Direct flights would be a key to increasing the number of Soviet immigrants to Israel, which officials were predicting to number between 30,000 and 50,000 in 1990 as a result of liberalised emigration laws and new U.S. immigration restrictions.

As many as 300,000 Soviet immigrants are expected here in the next three years. The cost of settling the immigrants is estimated at about \$3 billion, of which Jewish Americans and other Jews abroad are expected to contribute about \$500 million.

Of the emigrants, 11,994 have

settled in Israel, the largest number since the early 1970s, according to figures released by the Jewish Agency, a quasi-governmental organisation funded by the newcomers in Israel.

The 125 immigrants, who had originally waited in Moscow for 10 days to come to Israel via Romania before joining Monday's special flight, sang Hebrew songs of joy and broke into dance at the Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv.

Adin Goldberg, a 25-year-old electrical engineer, expressed his joy at being in the country on Israel Radio.

"I want to work here and to live here and if need be to defend here," he said in broken Hebrew.

"In every place there are problems, but I want my problems to be here. In my heart I won't have to keep thinking if there will a pogrom here," he said.

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Or

## 10,000 Bulgarians protest against ethnic Turks' rights

SOFIA (R) — Up to 10,000 Bulgarians demonstrated in the southern town of Kardzhali against a decision to grant religious rights to local ethnic Turks and allow them to use their Muslim names, Bulgarian Television said.

Iranian students seized the American embassy in Tehran in November 1979 following the revolution and held 52 employees hostage for 444 days.

In a related development, the daily English newspaper Tehran Times praised the Iranian parliament for asking Pope John Paul II not to hand over Noriega.

But the paper said 140 members of the Majlis, or parliament, who made the appeal Sunday should have been clearer in not linking their action to Noriega himself.

In Iran, a smooth transition of power after the death of supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in June had "left the West gasping," Kayhan said.

Kayhan in February called for Rushdie to be killed for writing "The Satanic Verses," which many Muslims regard as blasphemy.

U.S. President George Bush called Kayhan International daily as also welcoming the dropping of a ban on Muslim headscarves in Turkish universities and greater freedom for Bulgarian Muslims under a new government in Sofia. Calls for religious freedom were growing in the Soviet Union and China, which have Muslim minorities, Kayhan said in an editorial.

IRNA news agency quoted Kayhan International daily as also welcoming the dropping of a ban on Muslim headscarves in Turkish universities and greater freedom for Bulgarian Muslims under a new government in Sofia. Calls for religious freedom were growing in the Soviet Union and China, which have Muslim minorities, Kayhan said in an editorial.

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## Meeting Islamists part of the way

By Marwan M. Shabani  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As the tables turned Monday the Muslim Brotherhood bloc gave an almost solid vote of confidence to the government of Mudar Badran.

Since the election fever began in October, the press has played up the role of the Brotherhood as the "sole" opposition bloc in the legislative body.

In a "loaded" two-hour response, as one observer put it, to three days of demands and attacks, Prime Minister Mudar Badran indicated that he was willing to consider the terms that Brotherhood spokesman Abdul Latif Arabyat had set as the bloc's terms for a vote of confidence.

Toppling the Brotherhood's 14-point list of conditions was the application of the Islamic Sharia in education, social affairs and the economy. The "number 1" Brotherhood condition was one of the few on the list that the Prime Minister did not directly respond to.

### One stood out

With the sole exception of Amman Deputy Sheikh Abdul Mumin Abu Zant, all other Brotherhood members gave a vote of confidence to the Badran government. As many of them voiced their "years", they added that their votes came as a result of Badran's acceptance in principle of their terms.

Sheikh Abu Zant's deviation from the Brotherhood's main

stream viewpoint was seen as a "breakaway" move by some observers. Although originally seen as a major influence on plausibly co-religionists, Abu Zant seems to have provoked the wrath of some of his colleagues and his membership in the bloc was in question. "I he continues to vote as an individual, contrary to the bloc's consensus, he will automatically cease to be part of the bloc," Arabyat told the Jordan Times Tuesday. "We have not discussed the matter with him yet however," he added.

Abu Zant's two-hour speech was considered by observers to be the epitome of a rejectionist stand, which left no room for compromise.

His misphrased comments about gerrymandering were misunderstood by some to mean something quite different causing a substantial uproar in the chamber. His fellow deputies voted to have his entire speech stricken off the record as part of the parliament's commentary on the government's programme.

An official announcement by the Brotherhood was published Tuesday in all Arabic language dailies saying the bloc had voted for the Badran government because the prime minister had agreed to meet many of their demands. The statement also said that the Brotherhood had voted in favour of the government in order to safeguard the democratic experiment and the stability of the country. The Brotherhood added, however, that it reserved the right to call for a vote of confidence at any

time if they saw the government's action moving contrary to its avowed pledges.

### To 24 they grew

Although Arabyat had only spoken on behalf of 20 Brotherhood and non-Brotherhood deputies, three of the bloc's members, on whose behalf the spokesman had not spoken, also voted for the government.

"There was a general consensus among the Brotherhood members and most Islamists that if our bloc's terms were met that we would all give the government a vote of confidence," Arabyat said Tuesday.

Ibid. Deputy Yousef Khawasch and Maan Deputy Yousef Al Athem, who did not run on the Brotherhood ticket during the Nov. 8 elections, are now officially part of the Muslim Brotherhood bloc in Parliament, according to Khawasch. Their names were among the 20 that were mentioned by Arabyat.

Several of the Brotherhood's terms had been very similar to those asked by other parliamentarians who are not associated with the Brotherhood or the Islamic trend in the Lower House. The demands concerned public freedoms and rights. The bloc's other demands were seen as "Islamic demands," only some of which seemed government-observers judged as feasible.

The 14 demands set by the Brotherhood were as follows:

1) The application of Islamic laws in education, social affairs

and the economy.  
2) The reinstatement of those dismissed from their university and government posts for security reasons.

3) Limitation of the influence of the intelligence service in the hiring and firing of citizens to government and university posts and curbing its interference in promotions in education (through scholarships), the granting of government permissions or allowing charitable organisations.

4) The lifting of martial law within six months.  
5) Continued support of the intifada.

6) Support of all liberation movements against "imperialism," especially the one in Afghanistan.  
7) Application of laws that would curb corruption.  
8) A demand that all Jordanian public and private holdings outside the country be returned to Jordan.

9) Encouraged stringency in government spending.  
10) Abolishment of interests given on small loans in the agricultural sector and housing loans.

11) Permit for teachers to create a teachers union which would protect their rights.  
12) Establishment of an Islamic law faculty at Yarmouk University.

13) A ban on production and sale of alcohol by Muslims and that alcohol consumption be forbidden in government departments and on the national airliner — Royal Jordanian.  
14) The establishment of a national Islamic university.

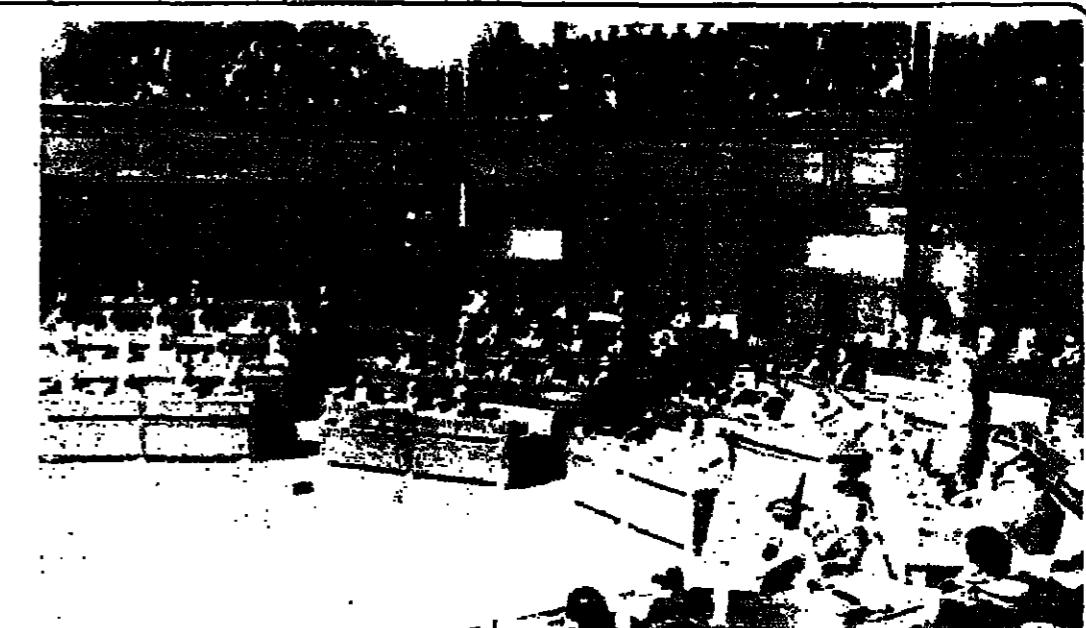
### Role change?

Some observers saw the granting of greater public freedom by the prime minister as an attempt to "win over" the Brotherhood and other parliamentarians.

An observer who has been watching the parliamentary scene in Jordan since the 1950s said the Brotherhood as a "mild threat" to the establishment and the government. "The demands they made in their statement were not demands made by an opposition of the established order," said one seasoned political observer.

The Brotherhood has been tolerated by the government long before His Majesty King Hussein introduced democracy to Jordan. In the 1950s the Brotherhood was seen as an ally of the state in the face of a strong leftist opposition," the observer said. "Things have changed somehow because the government has changed and Jordan has changed. The massive popular support that the Brotherhood and Islamists received in the Nov. 8 elections indicated that the movement was one which had more than government condonation. It had developed 'grassroots support'. The movement's successful election tactics, some of which deliberately undermined nationalist and leftist candidates by sometimes openly backing alternative candidates, indicated that they were still, 30 years later, a counter-weight to the left," he added.

While some may disagree with such an analysis, one



The Lower House in session Monday (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

appointment of any of the ministers," he said.

Indications prior to Monday's confidence vote were that the Brotherhood may object to up to four members of the Badran cabinet, according to parliamentary sources.

Although most of the Brotherhood deputies rode to Parliament through blistering attacks on the government of Zaid Rifa'i in particular and their criticism was seen as "mild" when compared to comments made by other deputies during speeches made Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Two Islamist deputies, both of whom had harshly attacked both the Rifa'i government and the background of Mudar Badran, took the session by surprise Monday. Amman Deputy Sheikh Youacob Qarash voted in favour of the government's

saying: "I give my vote of confidence to the government although I am not entirely convinced." Previously, the Arab press had said that Qarash would abstain from giving the government his vote of confidence.

Observers noted that Qarash may have been influenced by his supporters and associates at the Dar Al Quran Islamic Society who published a note in the form of an announcement on the front page of the Arabic daily Al Ra'i Monday saying they "disapproved and disagreed" with Qarash's remarks vis-a-vis the government and the vote of confidence.

On the other hand, Amman Deputy Laith Shbeilah with his vote of confidence, as he said he would in an eloquent one-and-a-half hour speech which he ended by calling for a new government to be formed.

## Preparations continue for ACC summit in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Preparations are going ahead here and in Baghdad for next month's Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) summit meeting, which will be attended by His Majesty King Hussein and the presidents of North Yemen, Iraq and Egypt, according to ACC Secretary-General Hisham Nammar.

As part of these preparations, the ACC is organising a ministerial meeting in Baghdad Jan. 16 to review an agenda for the summit, which is due to be held in Amman, Nammar said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Subjects which would be reviewed at the Baghdad meeting were prepared by special technical committees and deal with cooperation among the four-member state council in science and technology, planning, industrial and tourism cooperation, oil and gas, local government and

municipal affairs, meteorology, air transport and civil aviation, land transportation of passengers and goods, and religious affairs.

Like all ACC meetings, the Amman summit aims to achieve integration among Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen and Iraq in implementation of a programme agreed on by the heads of state of the ACC countries to be carried out in the coming years, said Nammar.

The Amman-based ACC is maintaining a policy of cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and the Arab Maghreb Union in view of the on-going economic and social developments in Eastern Europe and the planned unity among Western European nations scheduled for 1992.

He said cooperation between the ACC, the GCC and the Arab Maghreb Union is a must, lest the changes in Eastern European countries result in adverse effects on the Arab World. "Indeed, the Arab World should be in a strong negotiating position with other

international groupings especially in the face of challenges posed to the Arabs by the nations of the northern hemisphere," Nammar said.

To deal with future eventualities, Nammar said representatives of the three groupings would hold periodic meetings to chart coordination and cooperation in different fields, according to the ACC secretary-general.

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RAMTHA (J.T.) — Nursing education in Jordan and modern trends in the profession were discussed at a seminar organised by the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in cooperation with the Texas Nursing College in the American state of Texas.

The seminar, organised as part of the third scientific symposium at JUST, was attended by 60 participants from JUST's nursing faculty as well as nursing colleges in Jordan, the National Medical Institution (NMI), and the University of Jordan.

According to organisers, parti-

## 3-day workshop opens on 'Education Through Play'

AMMAN (J.T.) — "Education Through Play" is the title of a three-day workshop, which opened here Tuesday under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath with the participation of 50 women employed in teaching children at the kindergarten level.

The workshop, which is being organised by the Princess Sarvath Community College in conjunction with the New Brunswick College in Canada, will orient participants on new philosophy and trends in education through playing, theoretically and practically, as well as new methods in handling children, educating children and subjects pertaining to sports, science and music for children.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Dr. Saeed Al Tal, who is member of the Upper House of Parliament, deplored Princess Sarvath in opening

the workshop, which, according to the organisers, is in implementation of an agreement reached between the Princess Sarvath College and the New Brunswick College.

Canada's ambassador to Jordan Michael Bell addressed the opening session. He paid tribute to the Canadian Agency for International Development, which has contributed to the organisation of the seminar within its project of providing assistance and services to Third World countries. This workshop, he said, is bound to provide a training to the 50 participants on proper means of bringing up children and providing them with essential skills that suit their wishes and desires.

The ambassador said he was impressed with Jordan's national development endeavours, especially in the fields of health and education.

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## GUVS spent JD 1.5m on various projects in 1989

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) spent JD 1.5 million on charitable and philanthropic projects through the help of 450 charitable societies in the Kingdom during 1989, according to GUVS President Abdullah Al Khatib.

In addition, GUVS is seeking to set up the Amal cancer centre at the University of Jordan and Al Amal Centre for the Severely Handicapped in Yajour among other important projects to be executed in the new year, Khatib said in a statement outlining the union's programmes and operations at a meeting attended by Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Shreideh and GUVS board members.

Apart from the Amal cancer centre at Yajour, which will be inaugurated in next month, GUVS is involved in the setting up at least 10 rehabilitation centres in various parts of the Kingdom at a cost of JD 500,000, Khatib said.

He said that GUVS was providing scholarships to 750 needy students at Jordanian universities.

The minister praised the work of GUVS and pledged to provide



Abdullah Al Khatib

all possible assistance to all charitable societies.

He said that GUVS' work was bound to help the Ministry of Social Development and the government at large to eliminate pockets of poverty and reduce unemployment in Jordan.

## Pilgrims to get refund donation to building

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs is refunding an amount of JD 10 to each Jordanian who performed the pilgrimage to Mecca in the past season, according to a decision by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Al Faqir.

The minister said the pilgrims had paid JD 10 extra over charges for their transportation and accommodation as a contribution towards building up a pilgrim's cultural and educational centre in Amman, which will now be totally financed by the treasury.

Faqr announced his decision at a meeting with representatives of companies which transported the pilgrims to and from Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was called to discuss the prospect of establishing a national company to transport pilgrims. Businessmen who want to join the effort in establishing

the projected company should charge reasonable rates and should not aim at making excessive profits in view of the current economic situation in the Kingdom, Faqr said at the meeting.

This policy should be adopted, he said, to enable all sectors to perform the pilgrimage to Mecca.

The Ministry of Awqaf is trying to involve local companies in the new company, giving shares to each one of them in the new entity, Faqr said. But, he added, the ministry will retain the right of registering the would-be pilgrims.

According to a statement after the meeting, agreement was reached on electing a board of directors which will be authorised to take steps towards the establishment of the new company. Last year nearly 15,000 Jordanians performed the pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina.

## University to set up AAU centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Association of Arab University (AAU) and the University of Jordan Tuesday signed a cooperation agreement under which the AAU secretariat and the university will establish an information unit at the AAU in Amman, aimed at providing a data base to provide planners with information and statistics on the status of higher education in the Arab World.

AAU paid tribute to Badran for his efforts and congratulated him on his UNESCO appointment.

Badran promised to serve as ambassador for Jordan and the Arab World at UNESCO.

The former minister was presented with a Ministry of Education shield in recognition of his services.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITION

★ An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel.

#### FILM

★ A Czechoslovak film entitled "Good Pigeons Fly Home" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

## Lack of rains and fodder threaten Karak livestock

KARAK (Petra) — Karak Governor Ismail Al Zaben said in a statement to the local press and the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Tuesday that farmers in the governorate were facing a difficult time in view of the lack of rain this season and insufficient animal feed.

Zaben expressed fear that the livestock wealth in Karak, which constitutes 22 per cent of the total wealth of Jordan, is being endangered as a result of a lack of sufficient animal feed. He also complained that a number of areas in the southern Jordan Valley region still receive their drinking water from running streams

through its computer department, will also provide access to the AAU secretariat to any information from the database through providing a link between the computer terminal and the AAU secretariat. This project was approved by the council of the AAU in its 2nd session held at Nawakshot, Mauritania, in 1989.

Under the agreement, the university will set up a technical team to undertake a study on the data base. The university,

through its computer department, will also provide access to the AAU secretariat to any information from the database through providing a link between the computer terminal and the AAU secretariat. This project was approved by the council of the AAU in its 2nd session held at Nawakshot, Mauritania, in 1989.

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Editorial and advertising offices:  
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## A confidence vote well deserved

THE fact that Prime Minister Mudar Badran has won the vote of confidence in the Parliament Monday after a thorough debate and painstaking cross examination, makes it all the more rewarding and is cherished. The heated exchange of views between the "givers" and "seeker" of the vote of confidence has obviously added credence to the phenomenon of the vote of confidence in Jordan and bolstered the infant democracy in the Kingdom. It goes without saying that the days of achieving a vote of confidence by easy sailing which was characterised more by patronising niceties and superficial analysis are gone. Judging by the extensiveness of the parliamentary debate Sunday and the depth of the questions and answers, the country can now be proud of the distance it has covered thus far to fortify its democracy.

What helped Prime Minister Badran gain the coveted vote of confidence is his credentials as a man who means what he says and says what he means. The great deeds that his government has already performed in the service of democracy in the country — whether in the form of putting the entire area under U.N. supervision in order to protect the unarmed civilian population. The first underground leaflet of the intifada made a shy appearance. The Israeli occupation machinery was quickly ploughing through the field of political activists, throwing them into goals as

For two weeks the fire raged in almost unfathomable proportions. Even the local grassroots committees, activists and leaders were caught off-guard. The brutality of the Israeli reaction prompted an emergency meeting with the consul-general, where an appeal was made for putting the entire area under U.N. supervision in order to protect the unarmed civilian population. The first underground leaflet of the intifada made a shy appearance. The Israeli occupation machinery was quickly ploughing through the field of political activists, throwing them into goals as

The parliamentary debates that took place have also crystallised the formation of embryonic political parties. The apparent consolidation of the Islamists, moderates and leftists as three separate political "parties" is an added sign that there is no practical way to run a viable parliamentary life without the aid and comfort of political groupings. And the fact that each and every one of the three emerging political groupings within the Parliament have basically voted in bloc has confirmed the existence of definite and distinguishable political trends and currents in the country.

But now is the time to congratulate Prime Minister Badran and his team for a hard won victory. Surely, his current premiership will go down in the history of Jordan as the principal instrument that consolidated democracy in the country and put it in a safe and favourable environment.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

ALL Jordanian Arabic dailies Tuesday commented on the outcome of a Parliament session which lasted three days and which resulted in a vote of confidence for the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

Al Ra'i daily described the heated debate over the past three days as manifesting the true face of democracy in the country and paving the way for an era of true cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities in Jordan. By giving the government a vote of confidence, the deputies have displayed their determination to see Badran implement his ambitious plan of ensuring public freedom and enhancing the march of democracy in the country, the paper said. The long and complicated debate and the charges and counter charges levelled by the deputies and the government against each other can only reflect the desire of both parties to safeguard the national interest, which all the Jordanian citizens would like to see happen, the paper added. It said that with the vote of confidence, democracy has won victory in Jordan and in the Arab World. The paper expressed appreciation to those voting in confidence of the government and congratulated Badran urging him and his colleagues to translate their programmes into practice and maintain the confidence of the deputies and the Jordanian public.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday said he believes that the coming stage carry with it the problem of making available sufficient amount of foreign exchange to finance basic commodities for the consumption or investment. Faded Al Fasek says Jordan is in need of foreign exchange in order to replenish the Central Bank of Jordan's (CBJ) reserves of foreign currency, and also to pay for basic services, travel, education of students abroad and other essential matters. The amounts of foreign currency expected to come to Jordan are limited, and so the CBJ is bound to follow a stringent policy and save as much as possible, the writer adds. He says the government, for its part, is bound to increase exports of national products, boost tourism and try to encourage expatriates to transfer as much as possible of hard currency earned abroad. Fasek says while trying to meet the essential requirements and at the same time save foreign exchange, the government should restrict spending of foreign currency to imports of foodstuffs, spare parts and material used in industry and agriculture.

Al Dostour daily commented on the outcome of a three-day debate by the Lower House of Parliament, preceding the vote of confidence in the government of Prime Minister Mudar Badran. The paper said that the debate which was sometimes heated and involved charges levelled against the prime minister designate, constitutes a healthy sign for democratic rule in Jordan held in an atmosphere of public freedom. The paper congratulated the government on winning a vote of confidence and called on Badran to translate the government's programme into practice and to take the initiative in the coming stage which everybody believes should be marked with constructive cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities in Jordan.

By Sari Nusseibeh

ALREADY, the intifada has ceased to be a Palestinian event; it is now a landmark in the universal annals of national liberation movements. Indeed, the intifada is not just a Palestinian story. It is a human story. It is a lesson in the strength of the human will, the strength of the national will, and the strength and value of the call for freedom. It is a commonly held view now that Dec. 9, 1987, witnessed what can be characterised as a great and spontaneous popular explosion, manifesting itself in the furious outpouring of the unarmed masses into the streets, in brazen defiance of death itself.

The distinctive mark of the eruption, indeed of the intifada as a whole, was its populist nature. I remember thinking to myself, as I walked in the early days in the barricaded streets even of East Jerusalem and saw the familiar faces of the local carpenter or shopkeeper rising behind the flames of burning tyres, that I was witnessing finally, and at long last, a true people's revolution. It was a stunning sensation. I understood then the full significance of the phrase "a people's revolution": that this is the people's creation, that it is the people creating their actions, being their own leaders.

### Birth of the Unified Command

Different papers followed, concentrating on different angles and specific needs: the formation of unified committees, alternative economic strike forces, financial arrangements, the media, everything necessary for a declaration of independence. As papers were secretly passed around, commented on, discussed, the serialised calls of the Unified Command painstakingly translated ideology into programmes of tangible resistance. Out in the street, the outpourings of the masses were translated into acts of civil disobedience, leading to the complete severance of ties with the military administration.

On Nov. 15, 1988, the Palestine National Council (PNC) issued the long-awaited declaration of independence. The declaration of independence gave an important boost to the intifada. It gave hope, it set a tangible pur-

pose of this stage was reached when as many as 600 Palestinian police officers resigned from their jobs. Already the stage was set for thinking about a declaration of independence, and lively discussions were held on whether such a declaration should follow upon or be complementary to the call for total civil disobedience.

### The independence declaration

By now, tens of thousands of activists, school teachers, unionists, student leaders, professionals and others, were already in gaol. But even inside the prisons, the process of organisation and deliberation continued. Six months had passed since the outbreak of the intifada, and signs of fatigue were beginning to show themselves. The organisation and level of activity of popular committees and strike forces had been strengthened, but in contrast the momentum of past participation seemed to slacken. On the ground Israel was beginning to seize the initiative. I am not here talking about the courageous violence perpetrated by the army. But after the arrest of many members of the Unified Command, and a whole year of assessing the situation, Israel's intelligence enabled it to improve its methods of confrontation. For Israel's "peace" counter-offensive succeeded in stealing much of the limelight from the Palestinians. Having failed to storm the Palestinian village in direct army offensives, the new tactic now seemed to be the employment of collaborators within the village. Thus collaborators began imposing their presence and their strength in their local communities by the use of arms supplied by the security forces, thereby giving rise to counter-violence. Once begun, however, the cycle began to create its own momentum. In a climate where rumour often passes as fact, mistakes were bound to occur.

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Sari Nusseibeh

pose, and it provided a clear vision of what the primary task of the revolution should be, namely, the further positive crystallisation of a state structure.

But as the intifada entered its second year, the momentum once again seemed to slacken. On the ground Israel was beginning to seize the initiative. I am not here talking about the courageous violence perpetrated by the army. But after the arrest of many members of the Unified Command, and a whole year of assessing the situation, Israel's intelligence enabled it to improve its methods of confrontation. For Israel's "peace" counter-offensive succeeded in stealing much of the limelight from the Palestinians.

The Husseini Document — as the independence document was dubbed — was uncovered by security agents who had gone to arrest Faisal Husseini at his home. The timing coincided with Jordan's decision to declare administrative and legal disengagement from the West Bank. The stage was thus set for a serious effort to build on the dual disengagement, from Israel and from Jordan, in the process of turning popular and local committees into the integral and cohesive parts of a state structure.

On Nov. 15, 1988, the Palestine National Council (PNC) issued the long-awaited declaration of independence. The declaration of independence gave an important boost to the intifada. It gave hope, it set a tangible pur-

pose, and it provided a clear vision of what the primary task of the revolution should be, namely, the further positive crystallisation of a state structure.

In a situation of relative retreat, of redeployment, Israel sought to provoke battles of its own choosing. The magnetic cards battle over the issue of taxes was fought in Beit Sahur. But wherever one looked, one observed the unfolding of a pattern of events which more reflected an Israeli initiated strategy rather than a Palestinian offensive.

If the main theme of the second year of the intifada has been to naturalise it as an irrevocable mode of existence pending liberation, yet a significant feature in it has also been the absence of new ideological blood, of initiative, of a true assessment of priorities.

Above all, while the national leadership has recognised the wave-like pattern of the intifada, as one which reflects consecutive states of collective psychological moods, it has not always succeeded in translating this into programmes of resistance that are commensurate with those moods. A lack of synchronisation between prevalent mood and resistance action calls can easily introduce a state of alienation from the leadership. Uncontrolled behaviour on the part of youths can also alienate sectors of the community. The diffusion of authority and the proliferation of independent sub-groups is also a negative factor.

I believe that the national leadership is quite well aware of the problems it faces. Indeed, action has already been initiated to uproot some of the negative phenomena that had begun to appear. Chairman Arafat made direct radio appeals for the cessation of collaborator executions; the Unified Command has issued calls to contain such executions. It also issued a directive to disband all sub-groups and formations. In other words, the problems which I outlined have in fact begun to be dealt with and to be marginalised. Even so, it is clear that these are defensive actions rather than steps which can be regarded as a further development in an unfolding Palestinian strategy.

If one wishes to look ahead, there are several principles and hard facts that one must use as a basic for one's forecast. First, the collective psyche of the people as a whole is as revolutionary as it was right at the beginning. Second, the general impression is that, in any case, the hardships that will be inflicted by Israel on the population if the intifada were to stop are far greater than those they now suffer. Third, people's continued commitment to the intifada is no longer associated with the belief that independence is just around the corner. Fourth, the psychological and economic hardships suffered by the population are reflected in the levels of resistance and readiness to sacrifice. Fifth, the system of the Unified Command has proven itself to be a permanent feature of the intifada. Sixth, the phenomenon of Islamic fundamentalism is one that will continue to occupy a fundamental place on the political map. Its importance is likely to grow as hopes for a reasonably imminent settlement begin to fade. Given these principles, it is safe to assume that the intifada can last for a very prolonged period, consolidating the resistance spirit of the Palestinian people.

On the plane of institutions and public figures, "status quo" seemed to begin, as parties that had been totally paralysed the year before began seeking positions or setting up institutional frameworks which they assumed would provide them with appropriate places in the structure of an impending Palestinian state. Israel, for its part gained with increased intelligence the ability to seek out and destroy activists and leaders. Reports began coming in at a growing rate of cold-blooded, on-the-spot executions.

Time for a provisional government

I believe that the establishment



## Romania's rulers bear heavy burden after Ceausescu years

By Richard Balmforth

Reuter

BUCHAREST — Romania has taken its first faltering steps towards democracy but its new rulers face a colossal task rebuilding a society traumatised by dead dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's harsh rule.

The provisional leaders have announced free elections for next year, brought culture back to public life and put food into the shops, at least temporarily.

They have also scrapped hated laws, among them Ceausescu's scheme to raze villages and resettle people in new urban centres and his ban on abortion.

With the shadow of tyranny lifted after 24 dark years, they are set to lead Romania's 23 million desperately deprived people into their happiest New Year for years.

But Romania's lurch towards democracy after an extraordinary spasm of violence is not likely to be easy.

There is no prospect of rapid cures for the deep psychological wounds in a society ruled by terror for nearly a quarter of a century.

A lack of any flourishing democratic tradition even before World War II makes a smooth transition to a multi-party system

highly problematic.

"There are Christmas carols on television now. There are cartoons for the children to watch. There is pop music for the teenagers and there is food to eat," said one diplomat.

"But sooner or later some hard decisions about where they go from here have to be made," he said.

The task of being a member of the National Salvation Front (NSF), the umbrella organisation that is effectively running the country, is not only politically tough, it is also physically dangerous.

NSF Vice-President Cazinir Ionescu said Friday that the front's 145 members were being driven around in armoured personnel carriers to avoid assassination attempts by Ceausescu's secret police agents.

Diplomats say that with scores of well-armed and well-trained gunmen still loose there is likely to be a major security problem for a long time.

Against that background the promise by the NSF, a loose alliance of politicians, dissidents and artists, to hold free elections next April appears optimistic.

There is also a real fear of a popular backlash against thousands of officials who advanced their careers during

Ceausescu's rule at the expense of others.

The NSF, pledging reconciliation, Thursday urged people not to launch witch-hunts or settle personal vendettas against Communists and other members of Ceausescu's regime.

"There are many scores to be settled and the authorities are clearly worried about this," a Western diplomat said.

It is not clear just where the Communist Party, which had 3.8 million members, will fit into a multi-party system.

A supine body that paid lip-service to Ceausescu rather than rule, the party lost its guarantee right to power in the instant that overthrew the dictator.

Nothing has been heard publicly of it since. "They (party officials) are all scared stiff," said teacher Maria Ciobana.

The party newspaper, *Scinteia* (Spark) has transformed itself into *Adevărul* (Truth) and now describes itself as a political and social daily.

The 465-member party Central Committee appears to have gone into voluntary liquidation. Many members of the politburo have been arrested, although at least one — Prime Minister Constantine Dăncescu — is still on the run.

With the country lacking an

alternative source of skilled administrators, the core of the people running the NSF government consists of Communists and Party members.

But only those who dared criticise Ceausescu when it was unsafe to do so have been accepted.

In a country where public personalities unaffiliated by association with Ceausescu were a rarity, NSF President Ion Iliescu, 59, has emerged as the most widely respected figure.

Iliescu established his credentials by openly opposing Ceausescu's policies, leading to his demotion in 1984 to director of a technical publishing house.

Another prominent NSF figure is Dumitru Mazilu, 56, a one-time delegate to the United Nations who was put under house arrest and harassed by secret police after he denounced Ceausescu's human rights abuses.

People like Iliescu and Mazilu face the choice of building a new political career with a new creed or keeping allegiance to the Communist ideal damned in Romania by its identification with Ceausescu.

Three potential political movements have emerged — the National Christian Peasant Party, the Democratic People's Party and an environmental group.

"We have people turning up all the time at our gates to ask how to form a party," said a diplomat who did not wish his embassy to be identified.

Tensions are appearing, with some intellectuals and students wanting a more profound change from the old era.

Students in particular, who have become a force to be reckoned with after leading the Bucharest protests against Ceausescu, are questioning the right of the NSF to rule in their name.

But you must remember that are starting from zero in all the case for Dăncescu, an engineer.

"We are not used to this sort of



privately some Romanians are questioning the right of the NSF to rule in their name.

Some are questioning the right of the NSF to rule in their name.

But you must remember that are starting from zero in all the case for Dăncescu, an engineer.

"We are not used to this sort of





A daily scene on the trading floor of the Amman Financial Market.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

## Tunis exchange lowers commissions

TUNIS (R) — The Tunis Stock Exchange introduced sharply lower commissions on deals Tuesday in an attempt to stimulate business, exchange president Mustapha Nabi said. The exchange will charge 0.4 per cent on deals worth up to 50,000 dinars and 0.2 per cent over that amount, equally divided between the buyer and the seller. The old rate was 1.6 per cent. The commissions paid to the stockbrokers, also 0.8 per cent for the seller and 0.8 per cent for the buyer, have been liberalised and are expected to fall, Nabi said. To compensate for the loss of revenue, the stock exchange plans to introduce direct annual charges on the companies quoted. This will come into effect in about three months. Stimulating the stock exchange was part of the structural adjustment programme adopted by the government in 1986. But turnover at the exchange remains small and business is dominated by banks and insurance companies. Nabi said the old rates were unreasonably high while the new ones were closer to those in the world's big exchanges.

## Jakarta requests Kuwaiti investment

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia has asked Kuwait to invest in an oil refinery in eastern part of the country which could produce 250,000 barrels of oil per day. Mines and Energy Minister Gintanjar Kartasasmita said: "We have asked Kuwait to build the refinery... in Lombok island or in East Kalimantan," the official news agency Antara quoted Gintanjar as saying after a meeting with Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah. The Kuwaiti minister is on a four-day visit in Jakarta to explore areas of possible cooperation with Indonesia.

## Boussena becomes OPEC chief

LONDON (R) — Algerian Oil Minister Sadek Boussena has taken over as OPEC's acting president until the group's next meeting on May 25, OPEC head of public information James Audu said. Boussena's previous position as alternate president meant he took over automatically from the incumbent Rilwan Lukman of Nigeria, Audu told Reuters from OPEC headquarters in Vienna.

## Baltic regions start own programmes

MOSCOW (AP) — The three Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania started their much-debated economic independence programmes Monday, taking control of numerous factories and other elements of their economies from bureaucrats in Moscow. Estonia underscored the potential of the reform by kicking off a contest to design a new currency, the kroon. The newspaper Rabochaya Tribuna, or workers' tribune, said the kroon will be introduced next year and planners tentatively expect it to be fixed to the rouble at a one-to-one rate for inter-regional trade. But they plan for the kroon to float against the rouble for tourist purposes, the newspaper said. Details of the economic independence plans were still being hammered out at the last minute, as officials of the republics and the national government in Moscow argued over just which powers would be decentralised. The Baltics, with their more recent experience with capitalism than the rest of the Soviet Union, favour much more drastic economic reforms than Moscow, including legalisation of private property. The three republics were independent nations between the two world wars, until they were annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940.

## BA, RJ to operate joint flight service

AMMAN (J.T.) — From April 1990, British Airways (BA) and Royal Jordanian (RJ) will operate a joint air service between London and Amman using RJ aircraft, it was announced in Amman Tuesday.

British Airways currently operates three flights weekly between London Gatwick and Amman via Cairo. The last British Airways flight, operated by British Airways TriStar aircraft, will be on Thursday March 22.

From April 1 there will be five services a week, increasing to six

services a week from June 1, operating non-stop between London Heathrow and Amman. The services will use Royal Jordanian Airbus A310-300 aircraft and operate with a joint RJ/BA flight designer.

The decision to begin joint air service arrangements has been made on commercial grounds, commented Geoff Rhodes, British Airways manager, Jordan. "By linking with Royal Jordanian and with the support of our general sales agent, British Airways will continue to maintain a presence in Jordan, he said.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, January 1, 1989

Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	112.1	113.2
U.S. dollar	645.0	651.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	447.7	452.2
British pound	1042.5	1052.0	Swiss franc	334.4	340.2
Deutschmark	363.3	367.1	Italian lira (for 100)	51.1	51.6
Swiss franc	419.6	423.8	Belgian franc (for 10)	182.3	184.1

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to a square, to form four ordinary words.

UNFYN

PUMBY

KUEBER

OTHPRY

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

© 1988 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

WHAT HAPPENED WHEN NYLON STOCKINGS WERE FIRST INTRODUCED?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: THERE WAS A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: ANASH FAITH POPLIN SOCKET

Answer: Rich relatives left him a yacht, and ever since he's been talking about this—HIS "KUN SHIP"

# Amman Financial Market marks 1989 as 'the year of records'

By Samir Ghawi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Trading of shares and stocks at the secondary market of the Amman Financial Market (AFM) during 1989 eclipsed the record figures of 1983 and 1987 as the volume and number of securities rocketed to JD 552,650,272 and 257,867,657 shares and bonds respectively by the end of last year, according to data revealed by AFM Acting General Manager Ibrahim Bilbeisi at a press conference Monday.

Bilbeisi said the secondary market, which includes both the regular and parallel share markets as well as the stock market and the hereditary transactions among others which are excluded from floor trading, posted an increase of 222.3 per cent over the 1988 figure of JD 539,000 and up 142.0 per cent over the highest previous daily average of JD 615,000 registered in 1988.

In some detail, the regular and parallel share markets registered a combined volume of JD 367,618,135 in 1989, a 177.2 per cent increase over last year's total of JD 132,625,222 and a 148.1 per cent over the highest previous

record of JD 148,178,276 achieved in 1987.

The daily average volume of trading during 1989 was JD 1,488,333, up 276.0 per cent over the 1988 figure of JD 539,000 and up 142.0 per cent over the highest previous daily average of JD 615,000 registered in 1988.

Bilbeisi said that a total of 195,618,274 shares changed hands last year compared to the 1988 record number of 113,792,702, thus representing a rise of 71.9 per cent. The figures translate into a daily average of 791,977 shares and 462,572 shares for 1989 and 1988 respectively. A total of 210,483 contracts

were concluded in 1989 compared with the 1988 record number of 120,659 contracts, representing a 74.6 per cent increase. In terms of daily average, 852 contracts were signed last year in contrast with 490 signed in 1988.

Bilbeisi referred to Aug. 2, 1989 as being the record day in the history of the AFM since it was established in 1978. He said that Wednesday, Aug. 2, a volume of JD 4,571,461 was posted whereas the highest number of shares traded was recorded on another Wednesday, that of Feb. 1, 1989.

The beginning of February also witnessed the largest number of contracts in the AFM's history as a total of 1,968 contracts were concluded on that day.

The stock market was not an exception to the trend of ascendancy, registering a 1989 volume of JD 22,174,943 by far exceeding the previous 1988 record of JD 16,636,964 representing a percentage rise of 33.1 per cent.

The number of stocks traded, according to AFM acting general manager, stood at 658,612, a rise of 23.6 per cent over the previous record of 532,987 posted in 1988. Bilbeisi reasoned this particular increase to the decision lowering the commission of brokers to one per thousand instead of three per thousand and to the exclusion of banks from floor trading in government development bonds and treasury bills.

The operations, which were handled by the legal department for being hereditary or family-linked transfer deals, surged from 8,232,721 in 1988 to 61,588,725 shares and stocks last year — an increase of 648.1 per cent. The market value of the deals amounted to JD 162,850,194 compared to the 1988 value of JD 22,194,279, a rise of 633.7 per cent.

Bilbeisi said that the general index went up by 12.9 points — from 124.4 at the end of 1988 to 137.3 at the end of 1989 — or 10.4 per cent. Noting that such an increase was not registered since four years, he detailed the four sectors by points as follows:

- 1) Industrial shares going up by 45.3 points or 41.8 per cent;
- 2) Financial shares rising by 14.0 points or 8.8 per cent;
- 3) Services shares increasing by 20.3 points or 25.3 per cent;
- 4) Insurance shares declining by 39.8 points or 23.1 per cent.

The primary market, which handles new share or stock floatations for subscription was equally active last year as the overall amount reached JD 51,204,62, 52.1 per cent increase over the 1988 total of JD 33,660,000.

The 1989 total included the establishment of five new public shareholding companies, for a combined capital of JD 25,359,568 whereas in 1988 only one company was set up with a capital of JD 6 million. In addition, three public shareholding companies increased their capital by JD 2,845,074 in 1989 in contrast to only one firm, which boosted its capital by one million dinars in the preceding year.

One debenture for JD 5 million was floated for subscription in comparison to two debentures for JD 9.66 million in 1988. However, government development bonds totalled JD 18 million through three issues while there were only two issues for JD 17 million in 1988.

Bilbeisi attributed the impressive 1989 performance to the turbulent foreign exchange situation which affected Jordan in the past two years which also witnessed the dinar devaluation and the inflation spiral which followed.

The AMF acting chief voiced high optimism for 1990 to be a continuation for last year's remarkable results although it was careful to note that prices of most shares may be poised for correction in both directions.

On other activities, the AMF has provided Jordanian experience and expertise to Tunisians in their endeavours to advance their stock exchange. Moreover, Jordanian expertise were also sent to Oman to train the local stock officials in the Sultanate noting that a group of Bahraim underwent training at the AFM in Amman.

Bilbeisi also highlighted foreign interest in Jordan saying that JD 40 million of investments in shares and stocks were held by international organisations with more expected this year.

He also said that the Arab Monetary Fund has chosen the AFM to be the central liaison to monitor all economic activities in Jordan.

The AFM has already finalised studies to computerise most of its operations in the first half of this year.

## Argentine limits austral to drive dollar down

If large amounts were converted to dollars this week, the austral might sink as low as 6,000-1 against the dollar, Gonzalez said. "That would produce hyperinflation," he said.

Beginning Wednesday, the shortest-term certificate of deposit will be for 90 days, Gonzalez said.

The economy minister denied that the U.S. dollar would be used as a sort of alternate currency, as newspapers and analysts said for days was pending and as Argentine selling apartments, plane tickets, cars and other expensive goods have done for years.

With inflation estimated at a minimum 50 per cent for December and 5,000 per cent for 1989, Gonzalez admitted that the economy "every day is more dollarised" in terms of prices.

cash and have to accept long-term bonds in exchange for the rest, Gonzalez said.

Also, the central bank will order only enough austral to be printed to cover salaries, pensions and everyday business expenses, he said.

Investors whose certificates of deposit come due beginning Wednesday, following a bank holiday Tuesday, will be paid up to one million austral (\$500) each.

Anticipating inflation, marked up prices drastically or closed their doors in the face of panic buying by shoppers trying to stock up on goods they soon might not be able to afford.

"The commercial chain has been broken," Juan Carlos Lightowler Stahlberg, director of the Board of Merchant Business Activities, has said.

"We set up as businesses in order to sell," he said. "Unfortunately... every operation in cash (now) is done at a loss" because inflation makes it impossible to estimate prices in order to be able to charge enough to be able to restock.

The government claims the two-month plunge in value of the austral, which led to the resignations of one economy minister and two central bank presidents, is "totally unjustified and the

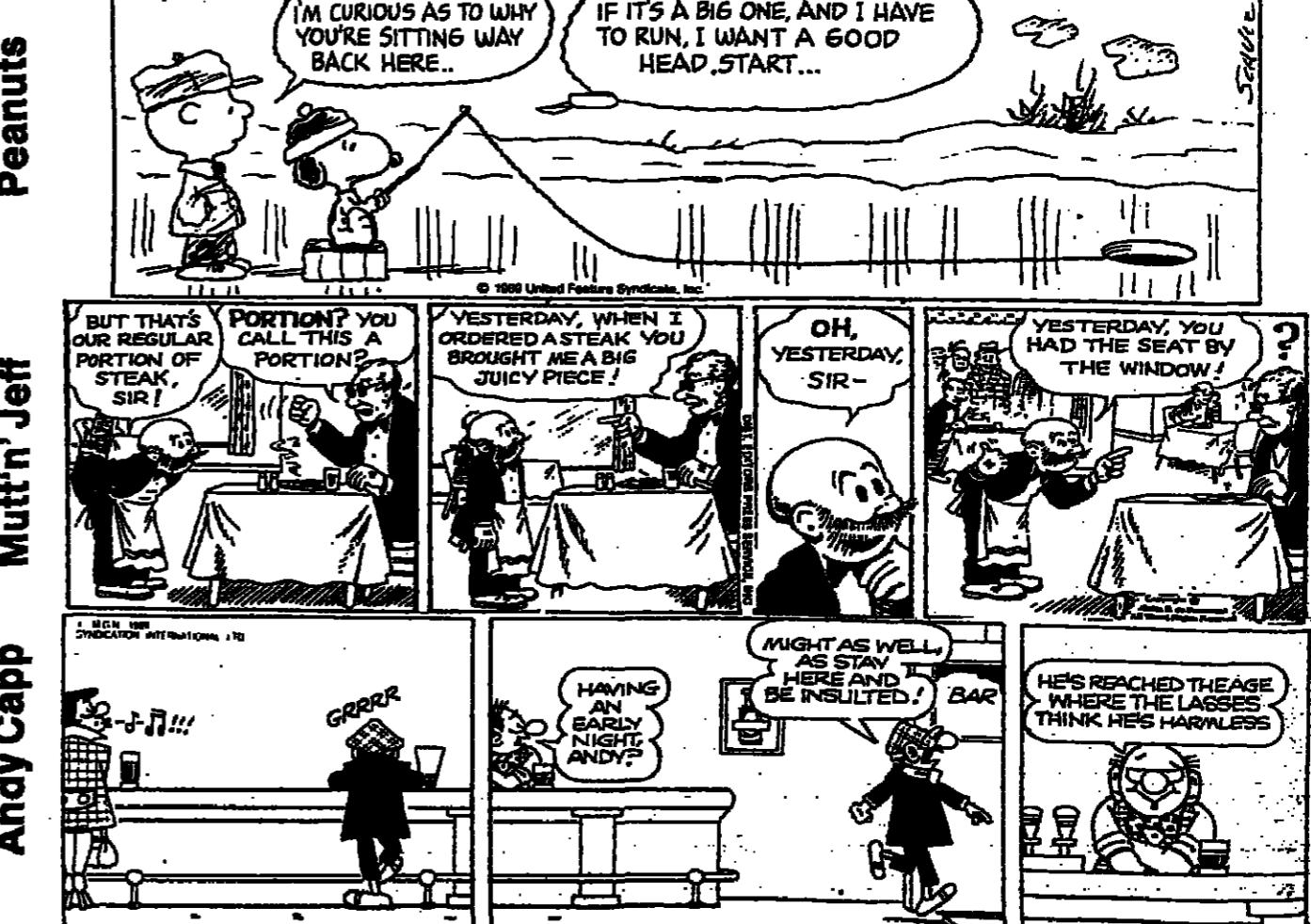
result of collective hysteria," in the words of Gonzalez.

However, exchange and interest rates will continue to be set by market forces, he said, denying reports the government intended to formally devalue the austral for the third time under Menem, or reimpose controls.

Wages and prices also will be set by market forces and not by government guidelines "because we are convinced that controls don't work in any country in the world," Gonzalez said.

Public service rates were not hiked, though that decision, which is necessary to provide funds for the government, may come later.

The government claims the value of short-term certificates of deposits may total hundreds of millions of dollars, which Argentines usually roll over every seven days.



## Queensland Open:

### Sukova, Novotna into last 16

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Top-seeded Czechoslovakian duo Helena Sukova and Jana Novotna each scored second round victories Tuesday to advance to the last 16 of the \$150,000 Danone Queensland Open women's tennis championships.

Defending champion Sukova breezed past compatriot Petra Langrova 6-3, 6-4, while second seeded Novotna ousted Nathalie Herremans of France 6-3, 7-5, in matches held at the Milton Centre.

Two other seeded players were eliminated in the second round of the 56-draw tournament, one of a series of lead up events for the Australian Open, which begins Jan. 25 in Melbourne.

Kimiko Date of Japan upset fourth-seeded South African baseliner Ros Fairbank 6-4, 6-3, while Australian Michelle Jagard bounced 11th-seeded Dutch player Marion Bolegraf 6-2, 4-6, 6-3.

Sixth-seeded Natalia Zvereva

of the Soviet Union and seventh-seeded Patty Fendick of the United States advanced in contrasting styles.

Zvereva defeated Dutch player Nicole Jagerman 6-2, 6-4, while Fendick struggled past Jana Pospisilova of Czechoslovakia 3-6, 7-5, 7-5. Pospisilova served for the match at 5-4 in the second set, but former NCAA champion Fendick kept her nerve.

Two seeds won first round matches.

Judith Wiesner of Austria, the 10th seed, defeated Australian Nicole Provis 7-6 (7-2), 6-2, while 16th-seeded Kathy Rinaldi of the United States defeated Pascale Echternach of France 6-4, 6-4.

Echternach was a late addition to the draw when Italian Laura Gofarsa withdrew, pleading heat exhaustion after a warm-up to 100 degrees (-100 celcius) temperatures.

The tournament continues through Sunday.

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
© 1989 T. Baum Media Services, Inc.

#### PREPARE FOR THE WORST

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ K 4 2  
♥ A 10 5  
♦ 9 6 3 2  
♣ 1 6 4

**WEST**  
♠ A 10-6 5  
♦ K 9 2  
♥ Q J 8 7 6 3  
♣ 10 8 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ Q J 9 8 7 3  
♥ 7 4  
♦ A K Q  
♣ A K Q

The bidding:  
South: West: North: East:  
Pass: Pass: Pass: Pass

4 NT: Pass: Pass: Pass

6 ♠: Pass: Pass: Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

If you follow the rubrics in decid-

ing how to tackle a hand, you will sometimes find yourself facing con-

flicting ideas. For instance, how

would you tackle the trump suit

here. Should you first lead toward

the short trump hand, or toward the

hand with two honors? At the right

time, both approaches have their

merits. In this case, however, forget

about broumides and use common

sense. There is something unpalat-

able about the queen of spades

spades to the second trick. If the

cards lie as in the diagram and West

wins the ace, East will show out on

the first trump. So declarer comes to

hand as soon as he can and runs the

nine of trump for the marked fin-

ess. If West shows out on the first

round of trumps, declarer can get to

dummy with the ace of hearts for

the marked fineness against the ten.

Either way, declarer can lose no

more than one trump trick.

Declarer should lead the queen of

spades to the second trick. If the

cards lie as in the diagram and West

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## Czechoslovak president in East Germany

### Europe need not fear united democratic Germany — Havel

**EAST BERLIN (R)** — Czechoslovakia's new President Vaclav Havel said Tuesday that Europe need not fear a united Germany as long as it was democratic, and offered Czechoslovak help to tear down what remains of the Berlin Wall.

On his first trip abroad since taking office five days ago, Havel said East Berlin and Bonn should wait for the euphoria over the opening of East Germany's borders to die down before deciding their future in consultation with the rest of Europe.

"Democratic awareness and a democratic system in Germany are more important than the possibility that it might become one nation of 60 or 80 million people," Havel told a news conference after meeting East German government leaders.

"Europe need have no fear of a democratic Germany. It can be as large as it wants," he said.

Havel, accompanied by Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier, made an unscheduled stop at the Berlin Wall and the Brandenburg Gate during the first leg of his one-day visit to East and West Germany.

"I was amazed the wall was still standing," he said. "(Acting East German head of state) Miroslav Gerlich told me work would soon start to tear it down.

"I told him that if he had any problems we could send some independent Czechoslovak workers to help free of charge," Havel said to loud applause.

The wall, built by East Germany in 1961, opened on Nov. 9 last year after a mass popular movement toppled hardliner Erich Honecker.

Havel, the hero of Czechoslovakia's own popular revolt in November, said he hoped East and West Germany would swiftly agree on the future of the two

countries.

"This process must be part of a whole European process. It must be worked out by negotiations, not through wild gestures."

"Much of Czechoslovakia borders on East or West Germany. Germany virtually surrounds us. It must free its neighbours of fear, specifically the fear of a greater Germany," he said.

During his four-hour visit to East Berlin, playwright and former dissident Havel met Gerlich and East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow, who heads a reformist coalition paving the way for national elections due on May 6.

He also laid a wreath at East Germany's monument to the victims of fascism in the heart of the capital.

By pointedly avoiding Moscow as his first destination abroad as head of state, Havel has made a clean break with the practice of the Communists who ruled Czechoslovakia for more than 40 years.

"We have come to Germany because we want to make an important contribution to a united Europe," he said.

Havel also met leaders of East Germany's round table conference, a negotiating forum for government and opposition leaders that has so far had trouble in coming to concrete agreements.

The Czechoslovak president said he had discussed the respective progress of the East German talks and a similar round table in Prague.

"At home when everybody gets excited we practice a therapy

of calming down and laughing. That helps us get on with things," he said.

"I tried it in my conversation with Mr. Gerlich this morning and it seemed to work."

In a New Year's Day speech Monday, Havel denounced the economic and ecological wounds left by 41 years of Communist rule and pledged to lead his country to free elections.

"Our country does not flourish... We have the worst environment in Europe," Havel said in Czechoslovakia. Television just three days after being elected CTK reported.

The premier said Czechoslovakia wants to increase its economic ties with Western Europe, CTK reported. He said countries with the Comecon economic bloc of Soviet-allied nations must increase their cooperation and the organization must be more efficient, according to CTK.

Using the colourful language of a playwright, in sharp contrast to the gray doublespeak of his predecessor, Havel hailed the long struggle for freedom in the East Bloc.

He said "rivers of blood" have flowed through many East Bloc countries over the past four decades, including Romania in the past two weeks, as their people struggled against Communism.

"These great sacrifices are a tragic backdrop of the present freedom or gradual freeing of nations of the Soviet Bloc, that is a backdrop of our newly gained freedom too," Havel said in his 28-minute speech.

Looking to the future, Havel emphasized the need to bring his country to free elections and renew Czechoslovakia's prestige abroad.

"My first task is to use all my authority and influence" so that Czechoslovakia can have "free elections soon and in a dignified way," he said.

The newly chosen president also said he would like to establish diplomatic ties with Israel and the Vatican soon.

"He promised each farmer

we shall consistently part with the system of management that prevailed in our country for many years. Our strategic goal is to prepare the transition to a market economy," CTK quoted him as saying.

Calfa said legislative changes will be needed to prepare for full democracy and that work on a new constitution is continuing, CTK reported.

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"He promised each farmer

## President confident Colombia will be free of drug traffickers

**BOGOTA (R)** — President Virgilio Barco has said he is confident the government's anti-narcotics campaign will wipe out the threat of drug trafficking in Colombia, but warned that Colombians would have to make greater sacrifices.

"Better times are assured for us in the decade that now begins," he said in a televised New Year's Day address. "We can now start expecting a future free of the threat of drug trafficking and terrorism."

He said he was confident that during the 1990s drug consumption would decline considerably because a majority of industrial nations were fighting the demand of narcotics in their countries.

On Aug. 18, Barco launched the government's most sweeping attack ever on the powerful drug cartels of Colombia, which control nearly all the production and export of cocaine in the world.

"It is necessary to keep advancing with firmness and greater sacrifices will be demanded," Barco said of the battle against the drug traffickers.

He did not specify what these sacrifices could be.

"Colombia is today a country which is different in the eyes of the world," he said. "Our homeland is considered a brave country which is fighting to defend its democracy and to protect humanity from the scourge of drugs."

Barco said in his speech that during 1989 the government had struck decisive, well-aimed blows against drug-trafficking criminal organizations.

"Their crimes no longer have impunity," he said. "Our actions will continue until the violent ones are definitely defeated."

The president said drug traffickers — whom he also termed "the violent minorities" — had killed hundred of defenceless

citizens in indiscriminate terror attacks and murdered prominent public figures in Colombia during 1989.

A drug-backed group, "The Executables," declared war on the government on Aug. 24 in response to the anti-narcotics campaign. More than 270 bomb attacks have followed and up to 203 people have been killed in apparent drug-related attacks.

Barco's government struck its biggest blow against the drug traffickers on Dec. 15 with the killing of Jose Gonzalez Rodriguez Gacha, considered the number two man in the Medellin cartel.

Police describe Rodriguez Gacha as being instrumental in the terror attacks including the bombing of a Colombian jetliner, killing all 107 people aboard on Nov. 27 and a huge bomb which killed 67 people on Dec. 6 in Bogota.

## Albania 'to resist' reforms

**LONDON (AP)** — Albania's leader, Ramiz Alia, vowed in a New Year's message to his nation to stay its socialist course and resist the upheaval that has toppled Communist governments throughout Eastern Europe in the past year.

Alia is Europe's last hard-line Communist state.

"The events that have occurred recently in Eastern Europe have inspired certain known anti-Albanian forces to resume the campaign of slanders against our country," Alia was quoted as saying by the Albanian News Agency ATA.

"But, as our people say, they cannot succeed in doing us harm," he was quoted as saying in Monday's address. The news agency was monitored in England by the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC).

Police describe Rodriguez Gacha as being instrumental in the terror attacks including the bombing of a Colombian jetliner, killing all 107 people aboard on Nov. 27 and a huge bomb which killed 67 people on Dec. 6 in Bogota.

"Our actions will continue until the violent ones are definitely defeated."

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citizens in indiscriminate terror attacks and murdered prominent public figures in Colombia during 1989.

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## Fledgling parties prepare for free elections in Romania

**BUCHAREST (R)** — Romania's fledgling political parties have outlined their policy differences with the ruling National Salvation Front as they hurriedly prepare for the country's first free elections in more than 45 years.

Numerous by four decades of repression, the formerly outlawed parties are dusting off their political programmes ahead of the elections, just four months away.

One of the best-organized, the National Peasant Party, complained Monday that the Front was not giving them time to prepare by scheduling the poll for April, but said they were confident of winning.

Party leaders unveiled a provisional programme promising a return to traditional Christian values and an end to the collectivized farming system that helped reduce the former granary of Europe to a land unable to feed its own population.

Western diplomats said the programme was calculated to appeal to two of the country's most important lobbies, the church and the farmers.

Provisional President Ion Iliescu's plans for agriculture, unveiled in a New Year's message in which he also abolished the death penalty and former leader Nicolae Ceausescu's Securitate secret police, are far less radical.

"He promised each farmer

would be allocated 5,000 square metres (just over one acre) to work for himself but stopped short of dissolving the collective farms.

Farmers will still have to give 70 per cent of their produce to the state, but they will be able to set their own market prices for the remainder.

By abolishing the death penalty, Iliescu may also have disappointed countrymen who feel that arrested countrymen and remanding members of the former ruling family such as Ceausescu's son, Nicu, should pay for their crimes.

Iliescu and the National Salvation Front are currently trying to fend off accusations that they are backtracking on previous commitments to multiparty democracy.

One of the fledgling organisations, the Romanian Resurrection Party, complained it was not being given television airtime and said former members of the discredited Communist Party were still holding key posts in the administration.

But Western diplomats said Monday that despite pessimistic predictions that the Front and army would tighten their grip on power, they believed democracy stood a good chance in Romania.

"The media here are now so strong, there are enough Romanians who have been exposed to

Western influences abroad, that we believe chances for democracy are good," one diplomat told Reuters.

The Communist Party itself,

little more than a personal vehicle for Ceausescu, stands little or no chance in the April elections, diplomats agree.

"It can change its name like some of the other Communist Parties in Eastern Europe" but that will not help it. It is finished once and for all," said a former leading member of the party, Silvia Brucan.

Life in Bucharest appears to be returning to normal but there was little traffic on the snow-packed streets and few pedestrians braved the icy pavements. No new sniper attacks were being reported and the army presence has been reduced although tanks still guard official buildings.

The leadership of Romania's Orthodox Church Tuesday published the first issue of its religious periodical and a calendar for 1990 that for the first time in many years omitted the once compulsory birthday of executed dictator Ceausescu in its list of significant events.

"We wish to herald the genuine rebirth of the Romanian Orthodox Church with this first edition and the authentic return to religious life in our beloved country. So help us God," said an editorial signed by Patriarch Teocist.

## Column 18

### Thieves steal cyanide

**EINDHOVEN**, Netherlands (AP) — Thieves stole some highly toxic gold cyanide from an electronics company, and police have issued a nationwide public health warning against the lethal chemical.

About a kilogramme of cyanide disappeared from a van at a Philips factory in Eindhoven along with 600 kilograms of palladium, apparently in a pre-dawn burglary, according to police spokesman Arne Van der Tooren.

Dutch television broadcast a police warning that "incorrect use" of the chemicals, especially cyanide, is "extremely harmful to public health. The missing chemicals, worth nearly half a million dollars, are used to manufacture electronic resistors, Van der Tooren said. He speculated the thieves may have stolen the cyanide in order to extract gold in a process that would release toxic

acids.

**Fashion designer**

**Weds**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Fashion designer Oscar de la Renta and socialite Annette Reed, a couple about town for several years, have been married. They were married at De la Renta's home in La Romana in the Dominican Republic, the couturier's office confirmed.

It was the second marriage for each. The bride, 50, is an active supporter of a number of cultural and philanthropic causes. She is the daughter of Jane Engelhard and the late Charles W. Engelhard, the industrialist and race horse owner.

**Lady Chatterley's Lover — a bedtime story on BBC**

**LONDON (AP)** — Thousands of Britons started listening to Lady Chatterley's Lover as their bedtime story on BBC Radio Monday night, complete with sexually explicit passages and four-letter words that have outraged anti-pornography campaigners. The British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) decided to go ahead with its 15-part radio adaptation of the unexpurgated version of D.H. Lawrence's novel despite efforts by the country's leading TV watchdog, Mary Whitehouse, to keep it off the air.

BBC Radio 4 not only broadcast the first part of Lady Chatterley's Lover down the Primrose Path but preceded it with a nearly 2½-hour reconstruction of the 1960 trial at which Penguin Books was charged with obscenity for publishing the unexpurgated version.

The ruling at the Penguin trial is regarded as one of the key events that led to a more permissive attitude to sexual morality in 1960s. Both BBC programmes started with warnings they contain words and descriptions of sexual acts which some listeners might find offensive.

It took 30 years from the first printing of "Lady Chatterley's Lover" in Florence to the celebrated Penguin edition of 1960 and another 30 years before the unexpurgated version was judged fit to be heard on radio. The unexpurgated version was published in the United States in 1959. The choice of the original Lady Chatterley's Lover to launch the 42nd year of BBC radio's "A Book at Bedtime" was one of its most daring — and in a highly unusual move was approved by the BBC board of governors normally do not get involved in such programme decisions.